VOL. 23 DECEMBER, 1979 NO. 5

Christmas Open House

Sunday Afternoon, December 16th, 2:30 to 5:00 P.M.
For all Master Masons and their families.
Fellowship and refreshments.

REGULAR MEETING

New Bern Lodge of Perfection No. 6
Monday Night, December 10, 1979 - 8:00 P.M.
— Refreshments —

THE BAGPIPE

(USPS 547-020)

516 Hancock St., New Bern, N. C.
Issued Monthly except January, May, June, July, August and September by NEW BERN SCOTTISH RITE BODIES
FLORIE G. DILL --------*Ass't. Editor*
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Vol. 23 No. 5
New Bern, N. C. December, 1979

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Junior Warden ----------C. F. Dickinson, Sr.
Orator ----------William C. Kellum
Almoner ----------W. C. Chadwick
Treasurer ----------Clifford W. Heath
Secretary ----------
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Master of Ceremonies ---------George E. Roberts
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Captain of the Host ----------Charles E. Russell
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The several Bodies of the Ancient and Accepted Scottish Rite of Freemasonry, sitting in the valley of New Bern, Orient of North Carolina, acknowledge and yield Allegiance to the Supreme Council of the Thirty-third Degree, the Mother Supreme Council of the World, whose see is at Charleston, in the State of South Carolina, of which HENRY C. CLAUSEN, 33°, is Grand Commander, C. FRED KLEINKNECHT, JR., 33°, is Grand Secretary General, James G. JOHNSTON, 33°, is Sovereign Grand Inspector General in N. C., and NELSON B. BANKS, 33°, is Chairman, I.G.A.C. of the Scottish Rite Bodies in the Valley of New Bern, Orient of N.C.

Ill. James G. Johnston 33°

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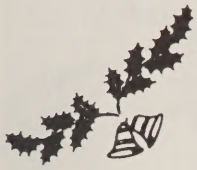
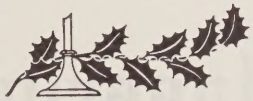




SECRETARY'S PAGE

As we approach the Christmas Season, let us not forget the labour and sacrifices of those who gave so much that we could have this day to celebrate the birth of the Prince of Peace. Not only at this Holy Season are we to give, but all through the year; if we truly give of ourselves, we will receive blessings abundantly. Our Nation has traditionally been a God-fearing and God-loving America. Let us always be a united people in love of God and liberty, with a concern for each other and an obedience to our Father above. We are truly an inspired people, blessed by the love of God. May we continue to be blessed and do the things in the sight of Him who came to bring peace to all.

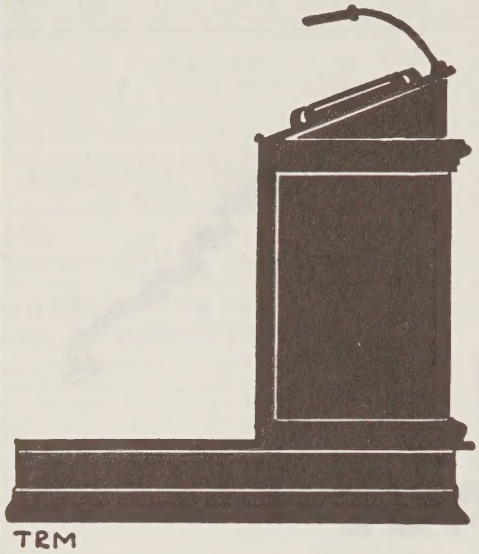
America has long been the citadel of Liberty for all. Those who settled in this land came here seeking God, while those who settled in other places were often seeking Gold. That is why we are the great nation we are - we were built by the "givers" not by the "getters". Our founders were the courageous - not the cowardly - built by the God fearing, not by the atheist. Yes, many were willing to sacrifice their all for us on this day to enjoy the greatest land on earth - a land built upon the word of God by strong people. May we continue to be strong in our belief and love for God and strengthen the spiritual foundation of our great Nation.

My wish for each of you and your loved ones is that the Christmas Season will bring peace, health and happiness and may it continue on into the New Year.

Sincerely,

Nelson B. Banks

Nelson B. Banks, 33°
Chairman, I.G.A.C.



From The Classroom

BY EDWARD P. BLAIR, 33° CLASS LECTURER

SERVICE

A famous Scottish Minister dreamed that he had died and was transported to Heaven's gates. He stood outside waiting to be admitted, when St. Peter appeared and asked him what he was doing there. The great Man of God told how he had been a good preacher for thirty years. That he had served on every committee in his little town. He had written several books. St. Peter listened carefully but seemed unimpressed. The preacher continued, "each Sunday I have given two full sermons to different congregations." St. Peter interrupted, "Is that all you have done?" The Minister said, "there is one more thing but it is not important. Every day I would feed the birds in the Public Square." The answer was fine, "Come right in, you are the man we have been waiting for." It is not the great deeds which we do before the public eyes in which we can always serve God. Far more often the small unsung deeds, that which as the Master said, "we do for the least of these my Brethren." These are the acid test of real christian discipleship.

There is a theme running through all of the Masonic Degrees, which seems to suggest and in some instance proves that there is a *Divinity* within each of us. *The Philosophy of the Scottish Rite has its greatest value in the urge created within each of us to find or discover that Divinity. Thus, He enabled us to pattern our lives in accordance with the moral and spiritual ideals which are fitted for a sincere seeker.*

Herein, lies our greatest hope, that of educating its' members towards the Dignity of man and the avenues of service that are found in an individual. Thus, the Scottish Rite, though not a religion, brings its advocates a dramatic and stirring journey to what God is? and where it is found? and what the results are? for each human soul who would dare to ascend the golden stairs.

In seeking to find God within us, we start, by creating in our minds an image of God. *It is this effort within the Scottish Rite that causes one to feel within, a gentle lift by the Supreme Architect.*

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Christmas Open House

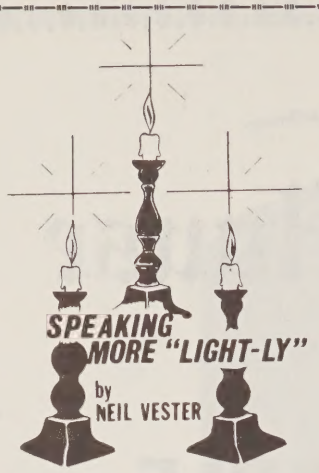
SCOTTISH RITE TEMPLE

New Bern, N. C.

SUNDAY AFTERNOON

December 16, 1979, 2:30 to 5:00 P.M.

All Master Masons and their families are extended a cordial invitation to visit us at any time during the Open House observance. The Temple will be decorated with the Christmas theme and refreshments will be served. Come and spend a few moments of quiet Christmas relaxation with us. Santa Claus will visit us in the latter part of the afternoon, at approximately 4:00 P.M.



MINUTES OF GOLD

Two or three minutes - Two or three hours,
What do they mean in this life of ours?
Not very much if counted as time,
But minutes of gold and hours sublime,
If only we'll use them once in a while
To make someone happy —
Make someone smile.
A minute may dry a little lad's tears,
An hour sweep aside trouble of years.
Minutes of my time may bring to an end
Hopelessness somewhere, and bring me a friend.

— Unknown

* * * * *

Speaking in Quotes: Christmas is the time when all that matters is the presents.

Christmas is the time when you wish people didn't come in different sizes.

* * *

Christmas always worries me. My wife gives me presents I can't afford.

* * *

Why does Christmas always come when the stores are most crowded? By the time I find a place to park, Christmas is over.

Misery is when Christmas has come and gone, but the relatives haven't.

* * * * *

Speaking With the Ladies: Christmas is that time of year when both the tree and husbands get trimmed, and sometimes get lit up, too.

* * *

Christmas time is also the time when mother has to separate the man from the toys.

* * *

Wife: "I wish I could find a book to tell us where to go on a vacation this winter."
Husband: "We have one book to tell us where we can't go - our check book."

* * *

"Dear Alice," wrote the young man, "I'm getting so forgetful, that while I remember proposing to you last night, I forgot whether you said 'Yes' or 'No'."
"Dear Bob," Alice replied, "So glad to hear from you. I knew I said 'No' to

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someone last night, but I had forgotten just who it was."

* * *

Teacher: "Give me a sentence with an 'object' in it."

Pupil: "Teacher, you're the most wonderful and beautiful lady I've ever seen."

Teacher: "Thanks, but what's the 'object'?"

Pupil: "I'd like to go home a little earlier today."

* * *

"Your husband looks like a brilliant man - I'll bet he knows everything."

"Don't be silly - he doesn't suspect a thing."

* * * * *

Speaking in Jest: A Shrewd gunman, who suddenly appeared at the paymaster's window of a large plant, demanded: "Never mind the payroll, Bud, just hand over the welfare fund, the group insurance premiums, the pension fund and the withholding taxes."

* * *

Two young guys were discussing their conquests and the first young man reminisced rapturously about one of his former girl friends, mentioning that she was a twin.

"Twins?" his buddy queried. "How did you tell them apart?"

"Oh, that was easy. Her brother has a mustache!"

* * *

Then there was the one about the goose flying south for the winter who flew past a drive-in showing a horror movie and was so frightened he got people-pimples.

* * *

Once upon a time the fence between heaven and hell broke down. St. Peter appeared at the broken section and called out to the devil: "Hey, Satan, since all the engineers are over in your place, how about getting them to fix this fence?"

"Sorry," replied Satan. "My men are all too busy to go about fixing measly fences."

"Well, then," replied St. Peter, I'll have to sue you if you don't."

"Oh, yeah," countered the devil, "and where are you going to get a lawyer?"

* * * * *

Speaking in all Seriousness: May each of you be surrounded with much JOY at this Christmastide.

* * * * *

Speaking From His Book: For unto you is born this day in the city of David a Saviour, which is Christ the Lord.

Luke 2:11

Wasn't our "Open Door" motive on the back of the November issue eye-catching? Take a good look at our front cover on this edition.

We are, indeed, grateful to our own Albert T. Willis, 33°, for these artistic contributions. Well done, Albert! Thank you!!

Open Letter

Dear Brethren:

Our Scottish reunion has come and gone, leaving behind a multitude of fond memories.

My brothers it was one of the best. Not only did we carry on the tradition of the Valley of New Bern by securing a wonderful class but we continued to confer the various degrees in an exemplarary manner. The friendship and fellowhip enjoyed by all was nothing less than Masonry at its best. The OPEN DOOR REUNION was outstanding my brothers because Y O U made it so. Your response to our appeal was almost instantaneous, it was positive, it was needed and it was appreciated.

To Y O U A L L a hearty thanks for a job well done.

Charles T. Potter, 33°

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SOMETHING ELSE

Every now and then I read that some wise person has proclaimed wishing an idle pursuit. So some of my pursuits have been idle. Every now and then I wish.

Almost as long as I can remember I have wished I could walk up behind myself and scratch my back. That would be true luxury. It's a rare twenty-four hours my back does not do some itching. I've been backing up to door facings, trees, exposed chimneys, and fence posts - anything handy - and rubbing like a bear all my life. If I could just get around behind myself and scratch my back, I'd figure I was already halfway to paradise.

For a right long time, too, I've wished I was a ventriloquist, and that anytime I saw two dogs together I could throw my voice so one dog would think it was coming from the other. You won't hardly find anything more comical than a dog that comes up against something that just completely confuses him. We once had a dog that always went with me in the skiff - up and down the creek, out into the sound. It always sort of worried him if I decided to take a swim - when I jumped over he thought I was leaving for good and he knew he couldn't row the boat back to shore. So he'd watch the spot in the water where I had gone under. I'd come up on the other side of the skiff and he would be standing there gazing fixedly at the spot in the water.

Reynold S. Davenport, 33°

I'd whistle and he would jump almost out of his skin; he would look at me and then he would look back at the spot in the water, he just couldn't figure it out. It would sure relieve him when I crawled back into the boat, and he would lick my feet and wag his tail all the way back to the dock.

Those first two wishes, I'll never realize. But I have another wish that has some possibility of fruition, although I've waited a mighty long time in vain.

I wish weather forecasters would quit forecasting. Weather forecasting, as currently practiced, is one of the most unproductive endeavors I've ever paid any attention to. Granted, the forecasters are right now and then (you'd be right now and then if you were predicting football scores), but their overall batting average is far too poor to justify their titles. What a weather forecaster is really good at is explaining why today's weather is not what he was predicting yesterday it would be. He'll talk learnedly about fronts and depressions and inversions and such in the hope he will get you so confused you will not realize how confused he is.

Weather people should get out of the forecasting business altogether - it's too chancy a business to offer any hope of success. What they should do is come on the air and report the temperature, wind direction and velocity, humidity, barometric pressure, and anything else they can prove. They could even say it is

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NOTICE

Proposed Amendment to By-Laws

Article IV - Section 1 - New Bern Lodge of Perfection No. 6
Changed to read:

"Section 1. The fees for the degrees of the New Bern Lodge of Perfection from the Fourth through the Fourteenth, inclusive, together with a copy of Clausen's Commentary on Morals and Dogma, and the Fourteenth Degree ring, shall be Seventy Dollars ($70.00), which fees, in all cases shall be paid by the candidate before receiving any of the degrees."

Article IV - Section 1 - New Bern Chapter of Rose Croix No. 5
Changed to read:

"Section 1. The fees for the degrees of the Chapter of Rose Croix from Fifteenth to Eighteenth inclusive, shall be Thirty-Five Dollars ($35.00), which fees in all cases shall be paid by the candidate before receiving any of the degrees."

Article IV - Section 1 - New Bern Council of Kadosh No. 4
Changed to read:

"Section 1. The fees for the degrees of the Council of Kadosh from the Nineteenth to the Thirtieth inclusive, shall be Thirty-Five Dollars ($35.00), which fees, in all cases shall be paid by the candidate before receiving any of the degrees."

Article IV - Section 1 - New Bern Consistory No. 3
Changed to read:

"Section 1. The fees for the degrees of the Consistory from the Thirty-First to the Thirty-Second, inclusive, shall be Thirty-Five Dollars ($35.00), including Patents, which fees, in all cases shall be paid by the candidate before receiving any of the degrees."

raining, or snowing, if that is what is actually happening. Then they should frankly admit they have no reliable idea what changes may take place in any of the foregoing, and get off the air. Most people are capable of doing their own guessing, anyhow.

One segment of the weather corps is apparently coming around to that general line of thinking, and I'm talking about the hurricane experts. I think the hurricanes have gradually taught them something. Time was a hurricane would be three or four hundred miles at sea and the experts would confidently predict it was going to tear into Savannah Tuesday morning; Monday afternoon the hurricane would rip Norfolk up right smart -wouldn't show any interest at all in visiting Savannah.

So the experts have lost right much of their confidence over the years. This year a hurricane was boiling up the gulf and when it had approached within forty miles of shore the experts still had about two thousand miles of coastline under alert. They had learned the hard way that a hurricane doesn't pay a whole lot of attention to predictions.

I have a number of other wishes that come to mind from time to time, but realization of these three would keep me happy for quite a spell.

Merry Christmas
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Charles T. Potter, 33°, Acting Secretary
Florie Dill
Laura Frances Wolfe
June Batson
Curtis Witt

HIGHLIGHTS — FALL REUNION

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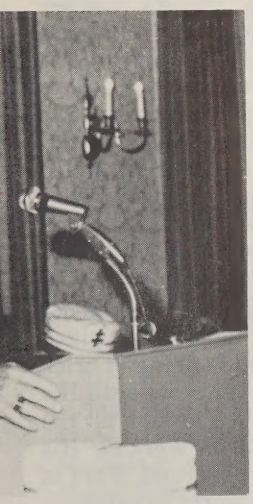
1. Our Inspector General, James G. Johnston, P.G.M., 33°, addressing members and guests.
2. A few of our "special" guests at the speaker's table, left to right - Lucille Banks, Lottie Pugh, Ill. James G. Johnston and his wife, Sarah, Ed Blair, Charlie Potter and wife, Sadie.
3. James W. Brewer, P.G.M., 33°, emcees the program.
4. Nelson Banks, 33°, Chairman, I.G.A.C. and Charlie Potter, 33°, Acting Secretary - it has to be real serious!
5. Jimmy Brewer presenting John Charlton's K.C.C.H. cap, with Reynold Davenport, Nelson Banks and Charlie Potter in the background.
6. Our own Nelson Banks, 33°, makes his point!
7. Nelson Banks presenting a gift to Sarah Johnston, the lovely wife of our Inspector General.
8. The I.G.A.C. Chairman presenting an award to J. C. Koon, President of Grifton Scottish Rite Club, surrounded by Francis Clark, Reynold Davenport, Jimmy Brewer and Charlie Potter.

NEW BERN SCOTTISH RITE BODIES



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9. An admiring George Roebuck watching Dewey Gillikin get a congratulatory kiss from his wife after receiving his "real" red cap!
10. The 33° designates, Frank Smith, W. M. "Coonie" Smith, David Owens and Charlie Dickinson, are congratulated by our Sovereign Grand Inspector General.
11. Major General Lloyd Wilkerson being presented to the Class by Ill. James G. Johnston, 33°, as the newest Thirty-Third Degree in the Valley of New Bern.
12. Our Acting Secretary, Charlie Potter, takes great pleasure in presenting a red cap to our designate, Jim Brulet, with appropriate remarks.
13. Words of welcome to the Valley of New Bern are extended to Sarah Johnston, the charming wife of our Inspector General, by Nelson Banks.
14. Kermit Layton, Jr. and his wife welcomed to our Reunion to accept a red cap in behalf of his late father, Brother Kermit Layton, Sr.

"With Mouth To Ear"

BY CLYDE McCARVER, 32°, K.C.C.H.

THE MASTER-PLAN

A black day appears in the history of the Hebrew people. Dire calamity had overtaken them. A ruthless king, Nebuchadnezzar, lord of the great empire of Babylon, had descended upon Jerusalem, beseiged, captured and laid waste the city and deported the bulk of the population to his country. Humanly speaking, it seemed to be the end of that little Hebrew state.

Fifty years elapsed and a new prophet had arisen with a message of consolation. He announced that the end of captivity was in sight. The long night of the exile was drawing to a close, and a new day was coming forth. A brighter day would dawn. The people would soon be free to return to their loved ones in Jerusalem, and they would build their national life again. The people could scarcely believe him. Fifty years had passed. Many of the original captives who survived were weary. A number had been born in Babylon and had never seen Jerusalem. Moreover the glorious temple lay in ruins and their lovely Jerusalem was a desolation. It was a folly to think of rebuilding the city and trying to start life afresh. Reconstruction was an idle dream for many. God had forgotten them. That was the prevailing mood with which this prophet had to deal.

"Can a woman forget her suckling child, that she should not have compassion on the son of her womb? Yea, they may forget, yet I have not forgotten you", the Prophet has God to say.

Rev. Clyde G. McCarver, 32°, K.C.C.H.

The Great Architect had a plan. He could not forget it, he could not ignore it. He is a builder, and he has a plan for a New Jerusalem. "Thy walls shall ever be before me, He affirms. It is a plan for a cleansed and reconstructed and revitalized national life. They were to go back to Jerusalem with a new ideal and start afresh. They were to be ambassadors to other nations, messengers to His truth to the whole world. That was to be the spirit and purpose of their national life in the new and better chapter of their history which they were about to begin. They were to have a world responsibility.

Well, it speaks to our proof of being good Craftsmen also. God does not shelter us from all suffering and difficulty; no true father would. He has a plan for our lives set forth on the Trestleboard. He has given us, in the Great Light, the blue-print for noble and effective living. As Masons we are charged to build a noble edifice. Because the Great Architect of the Universe has a plan for us it is the only one that makes sense, the only one upon which you can erect a decent building. Some of our plans for ourself are amateurish, and if we follow them we shall put up a queer, ugly, and uncomfortable house. But God is the Master Architect; and you cannot go wrong if you stick to His plan.

Just as the work-a-day architect is not satisfied until he sees his plans materialize in an actual building of brick and mortar, so God never rests until His ideal for us is realized. Through all the events of our life God is working His plan. One day it will be realized, if not in this world then in the world to come.

The master-plan does not work without our cooperation. For there the analogy between our lives and the buildings of brick and stone breaks down. We are not just bricks and stone which the world must see as rough ones. We are responsible beings with wills of our own. The Master Builder never coerces us. He puts the master-plan clearly before us. He desires us to accept the ideal of His and make it our own. Until we follow the designs He sets forth there is ever "confusion in the Temple." He helps us to think out how the ideal can be applied to our own lives, how we can build our own lives according to the master-plan. Together with Him we can work it out. And that is life indeed. May He grant that we have the spirit to think and do always those things which are right. We can never do the job of building the Temple without the Great Architect placing the designs before us. May He enable us to live according to His holy will.

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SCOTTISH RITE CLUBS

Beaufort County Scottish Rite Club

The Beaufort County Scottish Rite Club held their regular meeting Sunday, November 4, at the Golden Corral Steak House with 37 members in attendance. A fellowship hour was held prior to the meeting. Steaks were served at six thirty. Melvin Libman greeted each member with a slice of her home made chocolate cake.

President George Gillespie presided and Julian Vann gave the invocation. The Secretary's and Treasurer's reports were approved.

It was decided to hold our regular meetings at the Golden Corral except on special occasions, such as fish frys, etc. All meetings are set for six o'clock P.M. Supper to be set at six thirty.

The Christmas party is planned for December 2 at the Golden Corral. Each person is to bring a gift of about $2 to be exchanged to members of their own sex.

Ashley Leggett reported on the Tri-County Ladies Party which was held at the Town and Country Restaurant in Williamston, on October 24, with clubs from Washington, Martin and Beaufort Counties participating.

The following officers were elected to serve during 1980:

President ..... George Gillespie
Vice President ..... James A. Saleeby
Secretary ..... Ronald Fortiscue
Treasurer ..... Robert Gordon
Chaplain ..... Julian Vann
Publicity ..... Ashley Leggett
Assistant Secretary ... William Roebuck
Directors: Harmon Davis, Ashley Leggett, Peck Lassiter and Hermon Jones.

The installation will be held January 5.

It was reported that seven candidates from Beaufort County will take the 32 degrees in New Bern during the "Open House Reunion" which will be held at the Scottish Rite Temple November 13, 14, 15.

The meeting adjourned at 7:45 with the benediction by Julian Vann.

Ashley G. Leggett, 32°, K.C.C.H.

Dare Scottish Rite Club

The Dare Scottish Rite Club held their Fall Reunion Ladies Night with a dinner on October 20, 1979 at 7:30 P.M. at the Dare County Shrine Club in Manteo.

All members, their Ladies, Candidates and their Ladies were invited.

A fine meal of stewed crabs, steamed crabs, steamed oysters and oyster soup, collards, biscuits, ice tea, coffee and chocolate cake was enjoyed by all.

After dinner, President Melvin Basnight thanked the club members who, with the help of Mrs. Nina Brinn, mother of Brother Larry Brinn, prepared the food. Brother Basnight then introduced the speaker for the evening, Brother Wilton Walker, 32°, K.C.C.H. of Moyock, N. C., who made a very impressive talk on Scottish Rite Masonry. The meeting was then turned over to Brother Francis Clark, 33°, who urged all members to support their Blue Lodge and really get out and work for candidates for Scottish Rite.

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There being no more business, the meeting was closed.

Again our special thanks to Mrs. Brinn for all her help.

Roy E. Midgett, 32°, Secretary

East Carteret Scottish Rite Club

The East Carteret Scottish Rite Club held its monthly meeting November 5, 1979. There were 34 members present. Pres. Harry Willis, K.C.C.H., called the meeting to order. Bro. Ottis Jefferson, K.C.C.H., gave the invocation. We first discussed the "Open Door Reunion" and everyone agreed the outlook for candidates was getting better each day. We will meet at Mike's Restaurant Tuesday morning for breakfast before going to New Bern. This will be the third time before a reunion and the enthusiasm is getting greater each time.

Bro. Walton Lawrence was recognized for being designated to become a K.C.C.H in December. He made a few remarks aboout his surprise and appreciation of this.

Some remarks were made about the clam chowder and Ladies Nite suppers we recently had. We have had two fine meals, two good programs and lots of wonderful fellowship lately. You just can't beat a combination like that.

The meeting was adjourned after benediction by Bro. J. O. Lewis, Jr. Refreshments and fellowship were shared by all in the dining hall.

Gerry T. Smith, Secretary

Grifton Scottish Rite Club

Inasmuch as the November issue of the "Bagpipe" was devoted as a memorial tribute to our late Secretary, Brother Robert L. Pugh, 33°, I am combining the proceedings of the September and October meetings in this one article for the December issue.

September 10, 1979:

There were 24 members and guests present. Brother M. C. Batten, 32°, gave the invocation, which was followed by our usual delicious steak dinner. There was one candidate, Brother Tom Gray, present for this meeting.

After eating, Brother J. C. Koon, 32°, introduced our speaker, Brother Charles Dickinson, 32°, K.C.C.H., who expounded on the subject, "Why take further degrees". He explained how the 4th through the 32nd degrees, which are enacted on the stage accompanied by the wonderful choir, are taken from teachings of the Bible, although this is not meant to be a substitute religion. It is possible to take the degrees 4° through 14° at one Reunion and the remaining degrees at the next Reunion, or a later one if the candidate is unable to stay for the entire Reunion. Upon attaining the 32°, the Brother is given a lapel pin, copies of "Morals and Dogma", "The New Age", and "The Bagpipe". Brother Dickinson announced that candidates from a distance could arrange to stay at the "Sudan-Hilton, as the Shrine Temple is sometimes called, if they desire to stay over, rather than go and come each day.

At the annual election Brothers J. C. Koon, 32°, and Bob Taylor, 32°, were reelected as President and Secretary-Treasurer, respectively. Brother "Buddy" Albritton, 32°, agreed to remain as Vice-President and Brother Oakley Reynolds, 32°, agreed to remain as Scribe. A silent prayer was requested for our departed Brother Olin Smithson, 32°, and one for Brother Bob Pugh, 33°, who is desperately ill. Brother Bruce Cannon, 32°, gave the benediction.

October 8, 1979:

There were 19 present including one candidate, Tom Gray.

Brother Walter Murphy, 32°, gave the invocation and we enjoyed a delicious steak dinner.

Brother "Pete" Beaman, 32°, read an interesting article from the latest "New Age".

Several brothers remarked on the upcoming Reunion.

The following brothers plan to take the 15° through the 32°, at this reunion: Guy Lilly, 14°, John Waters, 14°, Henry Barry, 14°; and Bennie Harris, 14°.

Brother "Dick" Gaddy may go to New Bern this time to take some or all of the degrees. Gary Lanier has also expressed a desire to make it this time.

It was announced that the combination Christmas Party and Ladies Nite will be held December 10, 1979.

Brother "Pete" Beaman, 32°, gave the benediction.

Sincerely and Fraternally,
H. Oakley Reynolds, Jr., 32°
Scribe

* * * * *

Our meeting was held November 12, 1979, at the VFW Hut on Highway 11, South of Grifton. There were 22 members and guests present. Brother Pete Beamon, 32°, gave the invocation.

Following our usual delicious steak dinner, with all the trimmings, Brother J. C. Koon, 32°, welcomed all present and read a letter from Brother Charles Potter, 33°, which set forth the quotas for the different counties to meet the goals set for this year in order to reinforce our budget. The quota for Pitt County is 12. In all we need 163 to complete the goal for 1979, taking into consideration the number gained in the Spring Reunion. Brother Bob Taylor, 32°, also read a letter from Brother Potter, about ways to come alive, and asking for suggestions from the various Clubs. It was announced that the following Brothers are expecting to go to New Bern this time for the

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Reunion from Pitt County: Tom Gray, Dick Gaddy, Gary Lanier and Jack Edmondson.

This will be the first time for them. However, Brothers Guy Lilley, 14°, and John Waters, 14°, plan to go for the rest of the degrees.

Brother Bruce Cannon, 32°, read an interesting article from the Bagpipe by Brother Edward P. Blair, 33°, Class Lecturer, after which it was announced that we would have Ladies Nite including a "pig pickin" on December 10th.

We were then dismissed with a Benediction by Brother Walter Murphy, 32°.

Sincerely and fraternally,
H. Oakley Reynolds, Jr., 32°
Scribe

Ladies' Night Party - Williamston, N. C.

A Tri-County Ladies Night Party of the Washington, Martin and Beaufort Counties Scottish Rite Clubs was held at the Town and Country in Williamston, October 24.

Edward Mobley, President of the Martin County Club presided. Julian Vann, of the Beaufort County Club gave the invocation. George Gillespie, President of the Beaufort County Club gave the address of welcome and introduced the prospective candidates and their wives, there were about 10 present.

Edward W. Paul, 33°, of New Bern, talked about the forthcoming "Open Door Reunion," he also introduced Samuel D. Bundy, K.C.C.H., of Farmville who delivered the main address of the evening. Bundy's topic was "Our Country and Masonry." He explained the Masonic effort behind the "Birth of this Country." He said, "Always look ahead - don't wait - now is the time to take the thirty-two degrees of Scottish Rite. Look ahead, plan ahead, have optimism, there is no more noble life than that of Scottish Rite Masonry". Bundy kept the group in laughter throughout his talk. He said, "If you don't think Scottish Rite of Freemasonry will benefit you - just ask any man who has taken the degrees."

There were some 175 or more present.

Sherwood Taylor of the Martin County Club gave the benediction.

Ashley G. Leggett, K.C.C.H.

Perquimans County Scottish Rite Club

The Perquimans County Scottish Rite Club held its annual Ladies Night Banquet on November 3, 1979 - 36 members attended with their wives or guests.

A steak supper was served by the Elizabeth City Shrine Club and the meeting was held at the Shrine Club Building. Harvey Spivey gave the invocation. After the meal the ladies were welcomed by Vice President James A. Beales. Response was given by Anna Sutton.

President Ernest W. Sutton reported that a nominating committee had selected a slate of officers for 1980.

The officers for 1980 were elected unanimously as follows:

James A. Beales, President, Durants Neck, N. C. 27930

John Long, Vice President, Rt. 2 - Box 254, Hertford, N. C. 27944

Lawrence H. Spivey, Secretary-Treasurer, Rt. 3 - Box 185, Hertford, N. C. 27944

Lawrence H. Spivey, Secretary
Ernest W. Sutton, President

Wilson County Scottish Rite Club

The Wilson County Scottish Rite Club held its meeting for Nov. 7th at 7:30 P.M. at the Western Sizzlins' Steak House.

The meeting was called to order by President Ray Adams and Bro. A. D. Underwood gave the invocation. A steak dinner was enjoyed by the 5 members and 4 guests present.

The Secretary read the minutes for the Oct. 3rd meeting and informed the club of the departure of Brother Herbert Wormwood who has retired in New Hampshire.

President Adams read an article to the members concerning deceased Brother Harold Seburn that was in the newsletter of the N. C. Retail Jewelers Association. He also announced that due to the lack of members present, we would wait until the December meeting to elect new officers for 1980. The meeting was then adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

Bobby R. Parker, Secretary

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THIS IS CHRISTMAS

By Harold Glenn Cuthrell, 32°, K.C.C.H.
(Harold Cuthrell was a very active member of the New Bern Scottish Rite Bodies, a Methodist Minister, and a 32°, K.C.C.H. Brother Cuthrell died in April 1959. He was much loved by his Scottish Rite Brothers. The following article is one of many that he wrote for the BAGPIPE.)

As Scottish Rite Masons we rejoice in the beauty, the joy, and the message of Christmas, for Scottish Rite Masonry proclaims the Christmas Faith which is a triumphant belief in the glory and power of the love of the Eternal God and Father of all mankind. Let us be grateful for Christmas, and open our hearts to the inspiration and influence of this Holy Season.

Christmas is Christ proclaiming the majesty and beauty and love of God for man struggling through the darkness of the world for light and understanding and peace. Christmas is the joyous festival of the Holy Nativity affirming that God was in Jesus Christ revealing his omnipotent love and plenteous redemption to man confronted with evil.

Christmas is reading again the blessed story of the first Christmas as recorded in the Gospels according to St. Matthew and to St. Luke: The Magnificat of Mary, the anthem of the angels, the birth of Jesus, the adoration of the shepherds, the Star of Bethlehem, the visit of the wise men, and the flight into Egypt.

Christmas is the Cherry Tree Carol telling us the legend of the journey of Mary and Joseph to Bethlehem. Mary, seeing a tree filled with ripe cherries, asked Joseph to get some for her but he refused, whereupon the branches bent down so she could reach the cherries. Feeling ashamed, Joseph attempted to reach the fruit, but the branches flew back so that he could not reach them.

Christmas is giving and sharing, remembering the destitute and unfortunate, and presenting gifts to those in need and loneliness and faced with adversity and affliction.

Christmas is reading Charles Dicken's "A Christmas Carol" and living again with old Scrooge and Bob Cratchit and Tiny Tim, and feeling the blessedness and beauty of this ghostly Christmas story, saying with Tiny Tim, "God bless us everyone."

Christmas is reading Henry Van Dyke's "The Other Wise Man," and going on the long quest and journey with the other wise man to find the king of kings. All of us are on a journey through the real of this mortality in search of the fulfillment of our souls in the eternal city of God.

Christmas is journeying with Washington Irving in his "Christmas Papers," and living with him in the Christmas Eve and Christmas Day of Merrie England in the day of the stagecoach and glowing candles in the hospitable inns bedecked with holly and mistletoe, and carol singers serenading the lords and ladies in the baronial halls radiant with the yule log and banqueting in the gay pageantry of the season.

Christmas is candles glowing in windows on Christmas Eve symbolizing the light and love dispelling the darkness, and filling the heart with a joyful faith in the power of love to overcome evil and bring in the day of universal peace. There is the tradition that candles are put in the windows to light the coming of the Christ Child on Christmas Eve. All of us cherish the beauty of the Christmas candlelight service. Before the Birth of Christ men looked upon the lighted candle as the symbol of spiritual aspiration. In the Old Testament frequent references are made to the candle as the symbol of spirtual light. We read in Psalm 18:28: "For thou wilt light my candle: the Lord my God will enlighten my darkness."

Christmas is a boys choir, with rosy cheeks and sweet voices, singing with exultation, "God Rest Ye, Merry Gentlemen," and "It Came Upon a Midnight Clear."

Christmas is Santa Claus with his wonderful and magic gifts and toys for little children, and reading again about the visit of St. Nicholas in Clement Moore's poem, and living again in the enchantment of Christmas Eves of childhood.

Christmas is returning home to family and friends, savoring the joys of friendship, exchanging gifts with grateful hearts, enjoying the Christmas dinner, and sitting before the open fire enjoying the comfort and goodness of home.

Christmas is bright new toys beneath a festive tinseled tree with happy children opening the gaily wrapped packages on Christmas morning.

Christmas is trimming the Christmas tree with gilded walnuts, gilded wishbones, popcorn and cranberry strings, paper chains, and twinklers. Christmas is having a tree of holly, fir, cedar, or pine with golden tinsel and shiny red balls and silver icicles and a beautiful star at the top and a little angel with shining silver wings.

Christmas is baking fruit cakes, roasting the turkey with chestnut or oyster dressing, and making mince pies, stuffed dates, circus candies, cinnamon crisps, and Christmas tree cookies.

Christmas is the bells and chimes ringing out the frosty air of midnight and dawn the carols "Silent Night" and "Joy to the World."

Christmas is listening to a great choir singing triumphantly the Hallelujah Chorus from Handel's "Messiah."

Christmas is remembering the history of Christmas in our country: The first

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celebration of Christmas held by Englishmen in America was at Jamestown in 1607. Capt. John Smith wrote in his record: "The extreme winde, rayne, frost, and snow caused us to keep Christmas among the Savages, where we were never more merry, nor fed on more plenty of oysters, fish, flesh, wildfowl and good bread."

Governor Bradford wrote in his record about the Christmas at Plymouth in 1620: "We went on shore, some to fell timber, some to saw, some to rive, and some to carry: so no man rested all that day." In the evening there was a Christmas dinner on the Mayflower.

The Puritans observed Christmas as a solemn day of worship. In 1659 the General Court of Massachusetts enacted the following law relative to Christmas: "Whosoever shall be found observing any such day as Christmas or the like, either by forebearing of labor, feasting, or any other way as a festival shall be fined Five Shilling."

In the cold and snow of Valley Forge, George Washington prayed with his troops on Christmas Day, 1777.

In the deep south back in the 1800s, it was the custom to hold open house at old Southern mansions. A few days before Christmas a load of cotton pulled by a six-mule team would be decorated with colored streamers, and sent to town to be exchanged for Christmas supplies for the plantation. A plantation legend says that on Christmas Eve at the stroke of midnight all the farm animals knelt toward the star of the east.

Christmas is living in memories of Christmas in the past: Doing the Christmas trading at the general store, which was fragrant with spices and candy and fruit and coffee and cheese: sawing and splitting a lot of extra wood for the holidays - grandfather killing and dressing a big fat goose - fresh butter being churned and hams and bacon being brought in from the smokehouse - going to church to see the children's Christmas pageant and then having gifts presented from the Sunday School Christmas tree -children piling into cold beds on Christmas Eve with a thrilling expectancy and joyful mystery pervading the cold room under the rafters - jumping out of bed on Christmas morning and running to the fireplace and taking down the stockings filled with candy and nuts and fruit, and then kneeling in the cold of Christmas dawning and looking over the magic toys Saint Nick had left on the hearth - smelling the wonderful odors of roasting turkey, ham, mince pies and cakes from mother's kitchen - the young people laughing and joking in the kitchen while making divinity fudge and having a good time taffy pulling - on Christmas evening everyone enjoying the magic-lantern slides - skating on the millpond on Christmas afternoon - going to church on Christmas morning and coming back home to sit down to the delectable Christmas dinner - playing charades on Christmas night - dipping bayberry candles and roasting apples and eating plum pudding - real candles of white and red and blue and yellow decorating the Christmas tree - neighborhood carol sings, and afterwards enjoying fruit cake and coffee before an open fire.

Christmas is worshipping in the sanctuary on Christmas Day and lifting up our voices with friends and neighbors in this prayer: "O God our Father, who hast brought us again to the glad season when we commemorate the birth of thy son, Jesus Christ our Lord, grant that his spirit may be born anew in our hearts this day and that we may joyfully welcome him to reign over us. Open our ears that we may hear again the angelic chorus of old; open our lips that we too may sing with uplifted hearts, Glory to God in the highest, and on earth peace, good will toward men. Amen."

Christmas is a blessing to the heart and a benediction to the spirit with this simple commandment of Christian love written by an unknown author: "Ah, friends, dear friends, as years go on and heads get gray, how fast the guests do go! Touch hands, with those who stay. Strong hands to the weak, old hands to young, around the Christmas board touch hands. The false forget, the foe forgive, for every guest will go and every fire burn low and cabin empty stand. Forget, forgive, for who may say that Christmas Day may ever come to host or guest again. Touch hands!"

October 16, 1979

Dear Mrs. Dill;

Your October "Bagpipe" told me the distressing news of Brother Pugh's passing.

Enclosed is a small contribution for the "Robert L. Pugh Memorial Fund".

It is my belief that Bob would leave to all: -the 13th chapter of Hebrews, the 1st verse: -"Let brotherly love continue". There is only one genuine brand of brotherly love - it is the Bob Pugh brand.

Respectfully,
H. Ross Jordan
Colonel USMC (Ret.)

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In Memoriam

"Like a ship that has left its moorings
And sails bravely out to sea
So someone dear has sailed away
In calm serenity.
But there's promise of a greater joy
Than earth could have in store,
For God has planned a richer life
Beyond the Unseen Shore."

Alonzo William Black, 32°, Kensington, Md.	**September 24, 1979**
Gerald Bruce Cornwell, 32°, Cherry Point, N. C.	**October 21,1979**
Joshua C. Rowe, 32°, New Bern, N. C.	**October 29, 1979**
Kermit Leary Layton, Sr., 32°, K.C.C.H., Edenton, N. C.	**October 29, 1979**
David B. Baynor, 32°, Kinston, N. C.	**October 16, 1979**
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Hebron Albert Arie, 32°, Rocky Mount, N. C.	**October 30, 1979**
Thomas Blanton Youngblood, 32°, Hampton, Va.	**September 27, 1979**
Arthur Jackson Slater, Jr., 32°, Garden Grove, Ca.	**January 30, 1979**

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James Donald Lane ..... Elizabeth City
Gary Douglas Lanier ..... Snow Hill
Ralph Walker Lawrence ..... Beaufort
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Richard Paul Ulrich ..... New Bern
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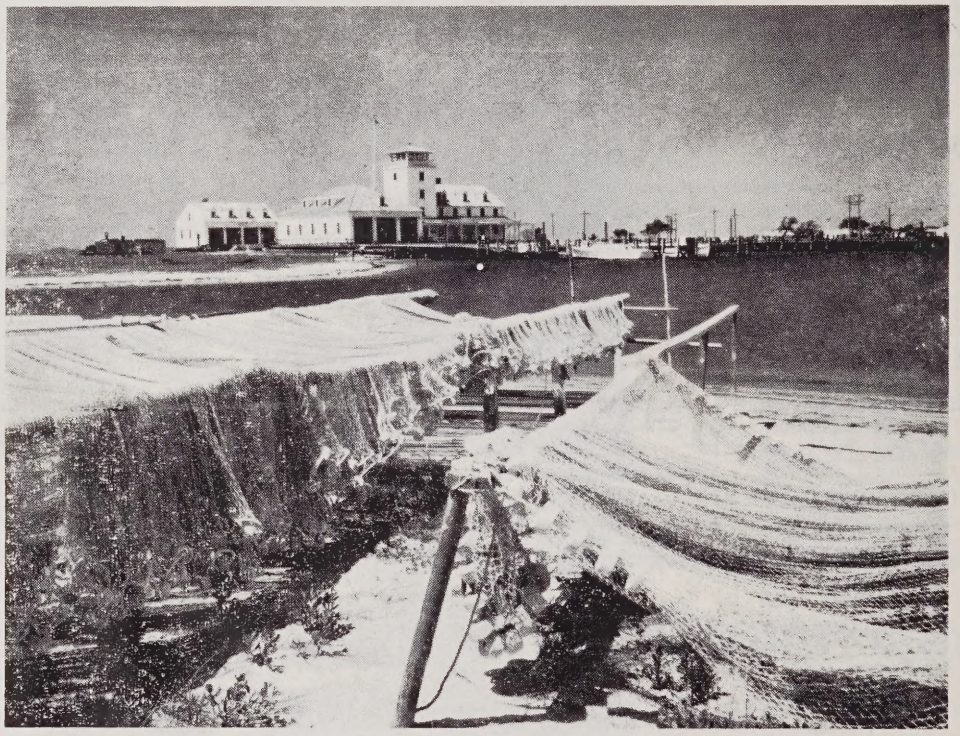

View across the harbor at the Coast Guard Station, Ocracoke, N. C. — Outer Banks

OCRACOKE HARBOR, OCRACOKE ISLAND, NORTH CAROLINA

Ocracoke Coast Guard Station stands like a sentinel at the entrance to the beautiful harbor, known as "Silver Lake." The motto of the U. S. Coast Guard is "Semper Paratus," and just as in days gone by the Life Saving Service went to the rescue of shipwrecks along the Outer Banks, the Coast Guard today is "Always Prepared" to go to the assistance of the ever increasing number of small, privately-owned power boats and yachts which visit Ocracoke annually to fish in nearby Pamlico Sound or out in the Gulf Stream of the Atlantic. Many tourists visit the Coast Guard tower located adjacent to the Cape Hatteras National Seashore Marina and the Sea Level (Ocracoke to Cedar Island) ferry docks, to get the magnificent view of the harbor, the Village, and the broad Atlantic Oceon beach. Information about Ocracoke can be obtained by writing the local Civic Club.

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